

A Romance of Extraordinary Distinction

THE MARSHAL

By Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews

Author of *The Perfect Tribute, etc.*

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(Continued from Tuesday.)

The colonel blustered a bit, but the lessons were arranged as Francois wished, and twice a week throughout the winter he rode over from Carnifax to give them. And little by little he came to know the small mistress of the manor as few had known her. People thought Lucy Hampton too serious and staid for a young girl, no one realized that her mother being dead and her father such as he was, the clear-headed little person had begun at ten or twelve years old to know that she must make her own decisions, and many of her father's also. At fourteen she had taken the keys and the responsibility of the house, and now, at sixteen, she was in reality the head of the whole great plantation. The colonel, who would have been most indignant to be told so, leaned on her in every detail, and it was she who planned and decided and often executed the government of the little kingdom.

Those who think of southern ladies of the old regime as idle do not understand what their life was. The position of mayor of a city would approach theirs as nearly as possible for the woman at the head of such a place to guide the household work of a great number of servants; to train new servants as they were added to the corps, to manage the commissariat for all this army; to see that the fruits of one season were cooked and made into the sweets and pickles and drinks of another; to look after the clothing of hundreds of Negroes on the plantation, cutting and arranging with her own hands. Beyond this, to the mind of a conscientious southern woman, such as was young Lucy Hampton, the souls of her slaves were her charge as well as their bodies. As she stood slim and fair and young, in the great, shadowy, sunshot hall of Roanoke house, and read and explained the Bible or led the singing, while all the nearest, parent, black faces turned to her trustfully, it was a great power to be given into such hands, and she felt it so. In addition to all this a lady of Virginia must entertain and go into society and be a grande dame as well as, if it so happened, a devoted wife and mother.

All this, except the last, lay on the slender shoulders of Lucy Hampton, and besides all this she had begun in very childhood to hold up the hands and do the thinking of an incompetent father. It was not wonderful that she was graver and slower to frolic than other girls of sixteen. Her conscientious young brain was full of care, and light-heartedness of youth had never had a chance to grow in that crowded place. Her cousin had come to live with them only the year before, when his mother had died, his father being dead long ago; and Lucy knew quite well that her father had planned that the two should marry and unite the broad acres of the plantations.

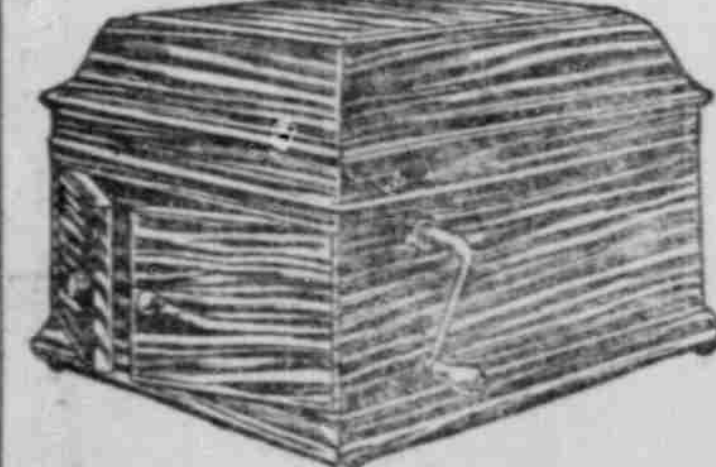
But the young longing for romance which was in her in spite of the choking sober business of her life, rebelled at this. She would not give herself as well as all her thought and effort for Roanoke. She wanted to love somebody, and beloved for herself as other girls were; she would not marry Harry because he and her father considered it a good arrangement. So strongly had this determination seized her that, looking entirely down that way of thought, she failed to see that Harry might not be classed with the colonel in his view of the plan. She failed to see that if she had not been heiress to Roanoke house, or to anything at all, Harry Hampton would still have been in love with his cousin Lucy. For Harry saw how the little girl had been pressed into a service too hard for it almost from babyhood; Harry saw how unselfish she was and trust-worthy; how broad-minded and warm-hearted; how she would like to be care free and irresponsible like other girls of her age, only that the colonel and the estate were always there, always demanding her time and her attention. He could do little to help her as yet, but he longed to lift the weight and carry it with her, not away from her, for the fairy of a person was not the sort to lean on others or to be happy without her.

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NEW COUNCIL WILL HAVE PLenty TO DO

Firemen's Petition For More Pay and Renaming of Streets Are Passed Up by the Present Body.

When the recently elected members of the city council, gathered at the city hall on Jan. 6 to hold their first committee of the whole meeting they will find plenty of work before them. Four members who were present at last night's meeting were given some idea of their future work when the body decided to leave over several questions to the next council.

The decision as to the renaming of various city streets in honor of the early pioneers of the city will be one of them. The other will be the question of an increase in pay for the members of the fire department. The third question is a petition for an ordinance calling for the registering of every movement of household goods made in the city.

The petition for the renaming of the city streets was brought up at the last meeting of the council. Some opposition has already developed so the committee decided to let it remain over for a while. The question for an increase in pay to the firemen was originally presented to the board of safety and was referred to the council.

An ordinance requiring the notification of the city of every movement of household goods is expected to be drafted as a result of a petition. Under the proposed ordinance the driver who moved the goods will have to notify the city clerk.

Last night's committee meeting was the last one that present body will hold and as a result an effort was made to wipe the slates clean. Several ordinances were approved and will be passed at the meeting of the council next Monday night which will be its final session.

Two ordinances affecting the boulevards were approved. The first will keep all drays, trucks and heavy traffic off the boulevards while the second is directed at street car traffic and will order the cars to come to a full stop before crossing any street included in the boulevard system.

An ordinance transferring moneys collected from the opening of Union st. to the general fund was approved. The receipts will be paid out in the form of damages in 1917.

Councilmen-elect Lang, Wolters, Smoger and Cochel were present. They were shown the workings of the body and at the close joined in with the members of the present council in their "Swan Song".

BOX PAPERS—Real Beauties, Bargains at Cooney's. ADVT.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING AND MILK ARE TAKEN

A thief with an appetite is the latest in South Bend. Tuesday this man entered the home of H. J. Anderson, 208 W. Navarre st., and consumed a chocolate pudding and a quart of milk intended for the baby and escaped before he could be captured.

It was thought that the right man was found but when taken into a neighboring house, he was identified and the police allowed him to go. It was argued that the man could not have had sufficient time to dispose of the milk and pudding. Members of the Anderson family were in front part of the house when the man entered from the rear.

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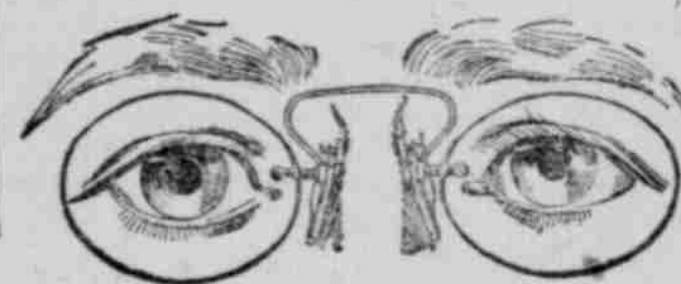
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